

Minutes of the Selectboard Meeting of Wednesday, November 12, 2008 at 6:00 PM

Members present: Gerard Chapdelaine, Chair; Alison May; Ed Childs; Suzanne Lupien; Sarah Nunan; Pete Webster, Town Manager; Nancy Kramer, Assistant to the Town Manager.

There were about 23 people in the audience.

Also participating: Phil Dechert, Joshua Durst, David Goodrich, Thomas Gray, Mary Ann Hankel, Lynn McGrew, Creigh Moffatt, Sharon Racusin, Stuart Richard, Chief Robinson, Richard Stucker, Warren Thayer.

Chapdelaine opened the meeting at 6:00 pm.

1. 6:00 pm - First Public Hearing Zoning Regulations (Discussion/Action Item). Chapdelaine opened the Public Hearing to receive public comment on proposed Norwich Zoning Regulations – October 15, 2008 version.

Rev. Goodrich again spoke about the Full Gospel Voice Church property and his continued problem with its classification as residential. Dechert explained that the Planning Commission has discussed this item and has chosen not to take any action on it. Goodrich has been informed of this decision and his right to petition.

Richards again discussed problems with the Zoning Regulations regarding Inclusionary Zoning, environmental protections and caps on the number of units.

McGrew would like to see more wildlife protection and Inclusionary Zoning.

Hankel and Moffatt addressed affordable housing and Inclusionary Zoning items. Both felt the October 15th Zoning Regulations should be adopted.

Nunan, Lupien and Racusin raised questions about the change in language in Section 3.13 under Forest Resources and Wildlife Habitats.

Other items discussed were smart growth, affordability and making the Regulations fair and reasonable so that they can be clearly interpreted by the Zoning Administrator and the Development Review Board.

May **moved** (2nd Nunan) to close the Public Hearing. **Motion passed.**

May **moved** (2nd Childs) to adopt the Norwich Zoning Regulations and Maps – October 15, 2008 Version. **Motion passed 3 to 2** (yes – Chapdelaine, Childs and May; no – Lupien and Nunan). The regulations will become effective on December 4, 2008.

2. Approval of Agenda (Action Item). By consensus, the Selectboard approved the Agenda with one change.

3. Public Comments (Discussion). McGrew asked if the winter parking hours could be changed from 8:00 am to 7:00 am as that would be more convenient for people needing space to park for morning meetings. The Selectboard asked the Town Manager to review the Parking Ordinance and see if this could be accomplished.

Richards said his litigation with Nowicki has been settled and the falls are now once again visible.

4. Town Manager's Report (Discussion). Webster has been meeting with Department Heads and getting familiar with Tracy Hall operations. He hopes eventually to have evening meet and greet hours at a neutral place. Temporarily, he and his wife are renting a house in Lyme. The Kendall Station Road project is almost completed. Andy Hodgdon is working on selling the Taurus previously used by the Town Manager.

Lupien conveyed a concern from Annah Dupuis that a concrete cover on the Grange property is cracked and it falls in the fire lane. The Board asked Webster to look into this matter.

5. Approval for Purchase Orders Greater than \$25,000 for winter salt and sand (Discussion/Action Item). After a brief discussion, Nunan **moved** (2nd Childs) to approve the payment of Purchase Order #7140995 and #7140996 in the amounts of \$62,921 and \$44,000, respectively, for the purchase of winter sand and salt. **Motion passed.**

6. Request to Expend Designated Funds from Police Station Fund (Discussion/Action Item) After a brief discussion, Nunan **moved** (2nd Childs) to approve the use of up to \$3,000 from the Police Station Designated Fund to replace the outside door, construct a wall and put more insulation in the ceiling crawl area. **Motion passed.**

The new Police Station Designated Fund balance will be approximately \$14,746.

7. Correspondence (Please go to www.norwich.vt.us, click on Town Offices bullet in left panel, scroll down to Norwich Selectboard section and click on Recent Selectboard Correspondence to view resident correspondence):

a) Nonresident –

b) Minutes of LEPC #12 8/21/08 Meeting and Letter from VTrans Re: Speed Limit Reduction Request, US 5 and Norwich State Highway to Town Manager. Nunan **moved** (2nd Childs) to receive the minutes of LEPC #12 8/21/08 meeting and a letter from VTrans re: speed limit reduction request, US 5 and Norwich State highway to Town Manager. **Motion passed.** Chapdelaine reviewed the letter from VTrans stating that an engineering study had been conducted by the Traffic Operations unit, their recommendations have been forwarded to the Vermont Traffic Committee and will be a topic on the agenda of the next Traffic Committee meeting on November 14, 2008 at 1 pm.

8. Selectboard

a) Approval of the Minutes of the 10/22/08 and 11/3/08 Meetings (Action Item). Nunan **moved** (2nd Childs) to approve the minutes of the October 22, 2008 and November 3, 2008 Selectboard meetings. **Motion passed.**

- b) Change Grant Administrator for Municipal Planning Grant #0245/MPG08 (Discussion/Action Item). Nunan **moved** (2nd Lupien) to designate Phil Dechert as the Grant Administrator for the Fiscal Year 08 Municipal Planning Grant to replace Steve Soares and to authorize the Chair to sign the resolution on behalf of the Selectboard. **Motion passed.**
- c) Resolution Calling Upon United States Congress to Raise Interstate Weight Limits in Vermont (Discussion/Action Item). After some discussion, Childs **moved** (2nd Lupien) to authorize the Chair to sign a resolution calling upon the United States congress to increase weight limits on Interstate highways in Vermont. **Motion passed.**
- d) Real Estate Negotiations (Executive Session May be Required). Dropped from the Agenda.

Under other business, Webster asked that he be appointed to GUVSWD to replace Steve Soares. Childs **moved** (2nd Nunan) to appoint Peter Webster to serve as an Alternate to the Board of Supervisors of the Greater Upper Valley Solid Waste District. **Motion passed.** Also discussed was Webster's current involvement with the Vermont Coalition of Municipalities.

Lupien **moved** (2nd Nunan) to adjourn. **Motion passed.** Meeting adjourned at 8:02 pm.

Approved by the Selectboard on December 10, 2008.

By Nancy Kramer
Assistant to the Town Manager

Gerard Chapdelaine
Selectboard Chair

Special Selectboard Meetings – November 19, 2008 and November 24, 2008 at 4:30 PM

Next Regular Meeting – November 25, 2008 at 6:30 PM

Pending Items:

- 1) Strategic Planning Committee Organization
- 2) Class 1 Road Designation
- 3) Communications Study
- 4) Department of Public Works Site Planning
- 5) Transportation Capital Program
- 6) Community Communications Outreach
- 7) Vehicle Acquisition and Replacement Policy
- 8) Municipal Enforcement of the VT Fire Prevention and Building Code

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